

KCC 4911
K-C 17,719

REMARKS:

This letter is in response to the Office action dated January 12, 2006.

The Office action requires restriction to one of the following:

Group I - Claims 1-43 and 51-65 drawn to an absorbent article; and

Group II - Claims 44-50 and 66-69.

Applicants note that the same requirement was made in the Office action of September 22, 2005. Applicants hereby confirm the previous made election, without traverse, of Group I corresponding to claims 1-43 and 51-65 drawn to an absorbent article. Claims 44-50 and 66-69 were previously canceled accordance with applicants' election.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter.

The Office action further requires election from among the following species:

Species A - reinforcing member embedded in the absorbent member; and

Species B - first, second and third regions, and a reinforcing member between each region.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Species A directed to the reinforcing member being embedded in the absorbent member. Claims 20-43 and 51-65 all read on the elected species. Claims 1-19 have been canceled in accordance with the election. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter.

In the event that the Office disagrees that claims 20-43 and 51-65 read on the elected species, the undersigned respectfully requests a phone call from the Examiner to discuss

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the election requirement.

The Office action still further requires election from among the following subspecies:

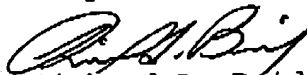
Subspecies 1: the reinforcing member is not substantially stretchable; and

Subspecies 2: the reinforcing member is elastic.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, subspecies 2 wherein the reinforcing member is elastic. Claim 29 reads on the elected subspecies. Claim 28 is withdrawn from consideration herein pursuant to the election.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency in connection with this Amendment B to Deposit Account Number 19-1345 in the name of Senniger Powers.

Respectfully submitted,



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